

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 125

By Bass

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Harold Wayne Hobbs upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Harold Wayne Hobbs, who has devoted more than forty years to the education and instruction of high school students and athletes; on March 17, 2007, Mr. Hobbs will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee high school athletics; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hobbs began teaching and coaching in 1965 at the age of twenty at Cornersville School in Cornersville, Tennessee, where he coached both junior and high school boys and girls basketball teams and the football team; and

WHEREAS, from 1966 to 1970, he served as the Director of Special Education Schools for Giles County, chartering new territory by organizing a football team and finding a way to obtain uniforms for the athletic programs; his years spent working with special needs children formed the basis of the philosophies and ideals which would lead him to success in school administration; and

WHEREAS, Harold Hobbs returned to Middle Tennessee State University at night and on weekends to complete his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees and forty-five hours toward a Doctorate degree; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Mr. Hobbs returned to his alma mater, Jones High School, in Lynnville, where he had been a star athlete in football and basketball and stood as the 1962 Valedictorian; he served as the head football coach there until 1975; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Harold Hobbs was named Principal of Beech Hill High School and served in that capacity for three years until consolidation closed the school; he was then named Principal and Athletic Director at Richland High School, a monumental challenge considering the school, in a consolidation move, would service students who had attended four other area high schools - all of which were staunch rivals in the sports arena; and

WHEREAS, believing that athletics and education go hand in hand in turning out well-rounded people, Mr. Hobbs went to work to build a successful athletic program from scratch at Richland; he knew that a strong program would be the glue to bond the students, faculty, and communities together; and

WHEREAS, before Mr. Hobbs retired from Richland in 2003, he was instrumental in raising \$70,000 to build a baseball and softball pitching/hitting facility, which was constructed and paid for in 2002; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Mr. Hobbs took on the role of Project Director for Upward Bound at Martin Methodist College and continues to work there today; and

WHEREAS, Harold Hobbs lends his time and talents to such notable organizations as the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS): the Tennessee Secondary Committee; and the Unit School Committee, Southeast Region, an educational body that determines the standards adopted by all unit schools. He is also a coordinator for self-study committees from schools seeking to obtain accreditation from SACS, and he has served as a member of more than thirty visiting SACS committees, evaluating and formulating school standards; and

WHEREAS, Harold Hobbs is a member of the TSSAA Hall of Champions Steering Committee, was the recipient of TSSAA Distinguished Service Recognition in 1998 and the Jones High School Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award in 2004; in addition, his achievements include service on the Board of Controls for TSSAA , the Program Council for Martin Methodist College, and attaining the third level on the Achieved Career Ladder; and

WHEREAS, the significance of Coach Hobbs' impact cannot be adequately measured by accolades alone; his positive impact on the lives of his students, athletes, fellow teachers, and administrators still resounds in the community today; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Hobbs has been supported by his loving wife, Sally Stammer Hobbs, and his children, Wesley and Ashley; and

WHEREAS, for the above and many others accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and impressive work ethic, Harold Wayne Hobbs has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Coach Hobbs is a man of true character and commitment, and he exemplifies the type of selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts to mentor the State's youth, guiding them with solid principles and high standards, whether on the athletic fields or in the classroom; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family and friends of Harold Hobbs in congratulating him upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, honor and commend him for his substantial legacy as a teacher, coach, and administrator, and offer our thanks for the dedication which he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.